

DEC 17 2004

Docket No.: 16159/133001; P2287  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Amit Gupta, et al.

Conf. No.: 4164

Application No.: 08/868,972

Art Unit: 2664

Filed: June 4, 1997

Examiner: B. H. Pham

For: TECHNIQUES FOR IMPROVING VIRTUAL  
CHANNEL MANAGEMENT AND  
MAINTENANCE IN A NETWORK  
ENVIRONMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 15, 2004, please reconsider this application in view of the following.